

Travelling with Columbus

3rd August, 1492

Tonight we left the **port**. My mother came to wave me goodbye on my journey as part of Christopher Columbus's crew. We don't know how far we will travel and we don't know when (or if) we will be back. We spent the day loading up the ship with food, water and clothing and taking orders from Mr. Columbus and the captain of the ship.



4th August, 1492

It was difficult to sleep last night as I feel so sick on the *Santa Maria*. Although she is a **magnificent** ship, the rocking from side to side makes me feel ill. George, my new friend on the ship told me that I will not feel sick for too long. He felt sick on his first journey too! He told me to drink plenty of water and it will pass. Although I feel ill, I am also excited. What an adventure; we are going to find the New World! Our first stop is Gran Canaria to pick up more **supplies**.

The work on the ship is hard. I am a **cabin boy** which means I am a servant. I sleep on the deck which can get wet when there's a storm. The cabin boys work in **shifts** which means that I can work at any hour of the day or night. I am told that some days I will be serving Mr Columbus himself, and I cannot wait.

6th September, 1492

We are on our way again. We were **docked** in Gran Canaria for a little over a week as we had to repair the ship and bring on more food. I served Mr Columbus drinks in the cabin and then did the cleaning. He told me all about how he plots the journey using a **compass**. It was a round metal object with a needle in the middle that moves around and shows you the way. We are headed for the Indies and we don't know what we will find there. The Queen of Spain is paying Christopher to travel and explore the world. He needs to bring back **riches** from around the globe to take back to her.



12th October, 1492

During the night there were loud shouts from the lookout. I was already awake as I was serving the Captain and doing all the jobs he wanted me to do. Land has been spotted. The captain checked that it was true. Yes! There it is, the New World! A **cannon** was fired to wake up Mr Columbus who was asleep somewhere on the large ship. Mr Columbus was happy and so were the crew. Everyone woke up to look at the view. All we had seen for weeks was the sea – not any more!



We went **ashore** today to see what we had found. The ship is too big to dock at the sand, so we had to get into little rowing boats and row to the land. It was very exciting but also hard work.

8th November, 1492

Today we met some people that live in this New World. They had darker coloured skin than the crew on the ship. We don't understand what they say but Mr Columbus gave them gifts from Spain and they are friendly. They showed us what they eat and how they build their houses. Mr Columbus says this land is called the Indies, so he named the people 'Indians'. Columbus has told us that he is going to claim the land for Spain but I don't think the Indians will be too happy about that.

24th December, 1492

We have been building an **outpost** on the island, ready for the Spanish to move into. It has been hard work as we have had to make the buildings from wood. Mr Columbus left last week to travel back to Spain, leaving a small amount of men to build the outpost. We could see the three ships leaving the island. In the distance we saw something happen. There were men shouting and jumping from ship to ship using ropes and small boats. Then, the Santa Maria was left alone in the ocean. The other two ships sailed away, with Mr Columbus on one of them. We have a lot of work to do before Mr Columbus returns. The local people here are not happy with us. Mr Columbus took some of the men from the villages on the ships with him. He's taking them back to Spain so that he can be paid from the Queen. They left behind their families and many of the women begged us to stop him. It was really sad to see. I hope they return soon.

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Travelling with Columbus – Y1m/Y2d/Y3e (Purple) – Text

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Travelling with Columbus – Follow-Up Work

What type of text is this?

Who was paying Christopher Columbus to travel the world and explore new lands?

What was the boy's job on the ship?

What was the name of the big ship that Columbus travelled on?

Did you learn anything new about Christopher Columbus after reading Travelling with Columbus?

Which is your favourite diary entry? Why?

Time words are used in diary entries. Give some examples.

Who is the diary about? How do you know?

The boy went on an adventure by sea. Have you ever been on an adventure? Was it like the boy's adventure?

The boy was excited to be on the journey. How do you know this? Use words from the text to help you.

Do you like reading diary entries? Why?

Write down two unusual verbs.

Travelling with Columbus – Vocab 1

Write the meaning of each word.

port _____

magnificent _____

supplies _____

cabin boy _____

shifts _____

docked _____

compass _____

riches _____

cannon _____

ashore _____

outpost _____

Travelling with Columbus – Vocab 2

Find the words from the box in the word search.

s	w	e	u	d	f	s	u	a	c	n
z	a	s	h	o	r	e	o	l	o	d
o	t	u	p	c	s	s	w	a	m	y
u	q	p	h	k	s	r	t	i	p	p
t	s	p	r	e	y	w	i	i	a	l
p	t	l	e	d	l	d	t	t	s	p
o	y	i	y	u	e	r	f	t	s	m
s	m	e	m	r	i	c	h	e	s	z
t	d	s	x	c	w	w	g	h	z	a
z	i	p	o	l	l	s	e	t	d	u
p	o	r	t	j	s	h	i	f	t	s

port

compass

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ashore

outpost

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supplies

shifts

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Travelling with Columbus – Y1m/Y2d/Y3e (Purple) – Vocab

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Travelling with Columbus – SPAG

In the sentences below write an S for subject, V for verb or A for adjective in each box to show the word kind.

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The ship sailed a long way from home to a distant and faraway land.

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The boy was young but he served Columbus well.

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During the night, the loud cannon woke up the crew.

In each row put one tick to show if the underlined word is an adjective or a verb.

Sentence	Verb	Adjective
The boy <u>helped</u> to build the outpost.		
The Santa Maria was <u>magnificent</u> !		
Although I <u>feel</u> ill I am also excited.		
The local people here are not <u>happy</u> with us.		
I <u>sleep</u> on the deck which can get wet.		

Travelling with Columbus – Oral Teacher Questions

What type of text is this? **Non-fiction, diary entry. A boy has written about real events that happened to him when travelling with Christopher Columbus.**

Who was paying Christopher Columbus to travel the world and explore new lands?
The Queen of Spain

What was the boy's job on the ship? **Cabin boy**

What was the name of the big ship that Columbus travelled on? **Santa Maria**

Did you learn anything new about Christopher Columbus after reading 'Travelling with Columbus'? **Personal response. The children may not know about how long it took to travel by sea or of the conditions the men lived in on the ship.**

Which is your favourite diary entry? Why? **Personal response. Can children state why they like a particular entry? Can they link it to their own experiences?**

Time words are used in diary entries. Give some examples from the text. **During, today, over a week, last week.**

Who is the diary about? How do you know? **A boy who is working and travelling on the ship with Columbus. We know he is a child because he says that his job is a cabin boy and serves the men on the ship.**

The boy went on an adventure by sea. Have you ever been on an adventure? Was it like the boy's adventure? **Personal response. Can the children link the text to their own experiences?**

The boy was excited to be on the journey. How do you know this? Use words from the text to help you. **He said he was excited and 'I cannot wait'.**

Do you like reading diary entries? Why? **Personal response. Children should justify their answer.**

Write down two unusual verbs. **Repair, spotted, fired, claim, begged.**

Travelling with Columbus – Vocab 1

Write the meaning of each word.

port – a harbour where boats can dock

magnificent – wonderful or brilliant

supplies – the things that you need such as food and water

cabin boy – a boy whose job it is to look after or serve the people on the ship

shifts – a period of time when someone does a job in relay with someone else

docked – to stay at the port, to not move

compass – a device used to navigate or find your way

riches – valuable or expensive things such as jewels

cannon – a heavy and large gun on wheels

ashore – to the shore, to land

outpost – a remote or faraway part of an empire

Travelling with Columbus – Vocab 2

Find the words from the box in the word search.

s	w	e	u	d	f	s	u	a	c	n
z	a	s	h	o	r	e	o	l	o	d
o	t	u	p	c	s	s	w	a	m	y
u	q	p	h	k	s	r	t	i	p	p
t	s	p	r	e	y	w	i	i	a	l
p	t	l	e	d	l	d	t	t	s	p
o	y	i	y	u	e	r	f	t	s	m
s	m	e	m	r	i	c	h	e	s	z
t	d	s	x	c	w	w	g	h	z	a
z	i	p	o	l	l	s	e	t	d	u
p	o	r	t	j	s	h	i	f	t	s

port

compass

riches

ashore

outpost

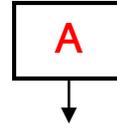
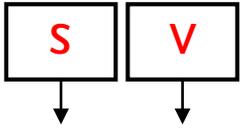
docked

supplies

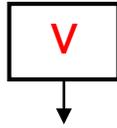
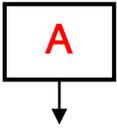
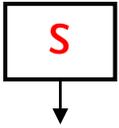
shifts

Travelling with Columbus – SPAG

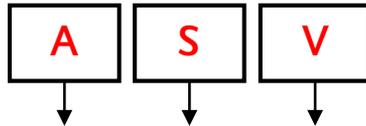
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The Santa Maria was <u>magnificent</u> !		✓
Although I <u>feel</u> ill I am also excited.	✓	
The local people here are not <u>happy</u> with us.		✓
I <u>sleep</u> on the deck which can get wet.	✓	